



Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
March 7, 2008 McCloskey Conference Room 135, City Hall

Policy Committee minutes are transcribed in a summarized outline manner. Audio recordings are on file with the City of Bloomington Planning Department.

Attendance

Policy Committee: Susie Johnson (City of Bloomington Public Works Department), Jack Baker (Citizens Advisory Committee), Andy Ruff (City Council), John Collisson (proxy Bill Williams—Monroe County Highway Department), Iris Kiesling (Monroe County Commissioner), Lynn Coyne (Indiana University), Sophia Travis (Monroe County Council), Susan Clark (proxy Mark Kruzan – Mayor), Bill Stuebe (City Plan Commission), and Kent McDaniel (Bloomington Transit).

Others: Lewis May (Bloomington Transit), Adrian Reid (Bloomington Engineering), Josh Desmond (MPO Staff), Raymond Hess (MPO Staff), Scott Robinson (MPO Staff), and Steve Forrest (CAC).

I. Call to Order (~1:35 p.m.)

II. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Johnson moved approval of the minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coyne and passed unanimously.

III. Communications from the Chair

Mr. McDaniel reported that he and Lynn Coyne had been contacted by INDOT regarding the commuter rail study. Mr. Coyne will be meeting with INDOT next week.

IV. Reports from Officers and/or Committees

A. Citizens Advisory Committee

Mr. Baker said that the CAC is trying to keep track of the 10th St. project from Hwy 46 to Pete Ellis Drive but have not heard anything yet. They are thinking of a new architectural project to work on with students from Ball State. They would like suggestions from groups like the Policy Committee. They are working on a Complete Streets Policy to guide transportation projects to be inclusive of all users of a corridor.

V. Reports from the MPO Staff

A. 2nd Quarter FY 2008 Progress Report

Mr. Hess presented this report and offered to answer questions.

B. Change Order Reserve Status

Mr. Hess reported there have been 3 Change Orders to date. One was for the Vernal Pike Phase II project and two were for the City's S. Rogers St. projects. The remaining balance is currently \$56,131.88 which should last through the end of the fiscal year which is June 30.

C. Complete Streets Policy

Mr. Hess reviewed a preliminary draft of a Complete Streets Policy which has been developed with the help of the CAC. Staff feels that the MPO could incorporate a complete streets policy when prioritizing projects in the Transportation Improvement Program. If the policy were to be adopted any project entered into the TIP would have to meet a certain level of accommodations for all the different users. Mr. Hess requested that comments from Policy Committee members

be sent to staff so that they can be compiled with comments from the CAC and TAC. Mr. McDaniel asked if INDOT would be compelled to comply with this policy. Mr. Hess responded that the hope is the policy might be taken into consideration by INDOT during the design of their projects. Mr. Ruff requested that information about Complete Streets policies in other communities be shared with the Committee. Ms. Clark asked for the document to be sent as a Word document to track changes. Mr. Coyne asked who would be doing the design review. Mr. Robinson said in reviewing many other Complete Streets Policies, he concluded that the intent of design review is not technical design review but a continuous coordination throughout the whole project. Ms. Clark suggested that the policy be applied theoretically to a project to determine if it would result in cost increases.

VI. New Business

A. Transportation Improvement Program FY 2008 – 2011 Amendments

a. Rogers and Country Club (City of Bloomington)

Mr. Hess said the current TIP identifies the letting of this project in FY 2009. However, the City is ready to let that project before July should be moved up FY 2008. The cost increase to this project is due to added utility costs. There is adequate federal funding to offset that cost. There was no public comment.

*****Ms. Clark moved approval. Ms. Kiesling seconded. Unanimous approval.**

b. SR 45: Pete Ellis Dr. to Russell Rd. (INDOT)

Mr. Hess reported that INDOT requested for us to include engineering costs (in 2008) and right-of-way costs (in 2009). INDOT has indicated that there is still an opportunity to make comments about this phase of this project. There was no public comment.

***** Mr. Stuebe moved approval. Ms. Johnson seconded. Unanimous approval.**

c. SR 45/46: Monroe St. to Kinser Pike (INDOT)

Mr. Hess noted that this is a road resurfacing project. INDOT needs to add engineering costs (\$100,000 in 2008). There was no public comment.

*****Mr. Coyne moved approval. Ms. Clark seconded. Unanimous approval.**

d. SR 46: SR 446 to SR 135 (INDOT)

Mr. Hess said this project has been scaled back and is no longer in the MPO's urbanized area. There was no public comment.

*****Mr. Stuebe moved to remove DES0014800 from the TIP. Mr. Coyne seconded. Unanimous approval.**

B. Bylaws Amendment

a. Change membership of TAC per City of Bloomington request

Mr. Desmond presented a request from the Department of Public Works to change their representation on the TAC from "Manager of Engineering Services" to "City Engineer, City of Bloomington." This request is supported by both the CAC and the TAC.

*****Mr. Coyne moved approval. Mr. Baker seconded. Unanimous approval.**

C. Rural Transit's 5310 Grant Application

Mr. Hess reported that Rural Transit would like to apply to the 5310 Grant Program to purchase new busses. Rural Transit would like to apply for \$160,000 in funding for \$200,000 in total costs to purchase 4 busses. The cost of the busses is dictated by the State.

*****Ms. Kiesling moved approval. Ms. Johnson seconded. Unanimous approval**

Steve Forest stated for the record that he would prefer purchase of fuel efficient vehicles or vehicles that could run on non-petroleum products. Ms. Kiesling noted the state doesn't necessarily offer a choice of vehicles. Mr. May discussed the savings of fuel efficiency versus the additional cost of the hybrid propulsion system. There are other benefits including environmental benefits and lower maintenance costs with the hybrid busses.

D. Unified Planning Work Program FY 2009 – 2010

Mr. Desmond stated the UPWP will have to be for 2 years instead of the usual 1 year as a result of the pending expiration of the federal transportation legislation. By drafting a two year UPWP, the MPOs in Indiana will be able to encumber money and not risk losing the money when the bill expires. Staff will submit the first draft for INDOT and FHWA review in mid-March. Two months of local, state and federal coordination will follow in order to make any necessary changes. The final draft must be adopted by May 15. Mr. Desmond presented a memo highlighting the big new projects planned for the next couple of years. 1) LCI Training Program—Mr. Hess who was certified as an instructor this year will present this program to the public on an annual basis, 2) Highway Safety Improvement Program (originally called HES assistance), 3) North Campus Area Study, 4) W. 2nd St. Study, 5) Transit Development Plan, 6) 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan update, and 7) CAC student study. Mr. Baker asked for ideas for potential projects.

E. Transportation Improvement Program FY 2009-2012

Mr. Hess reported that the final draft of the TIP will be presented for adoption at the June 13th Policy Committee meeting. At this time, the draft project tables indicate that the TIP is fiscally constrained. Staff will take the TIP to the CAC and the TAC for their input and there will be a 30 day public comment period. The PC will review the draft at the May 9 meeting. Mr. Ruff wanted a chance to review the final draft prior to the May PC meeting. Mr. Hess indicated the draft isn't binding and allows INDOT to double check fiscal constraint. The Policy Committee will have a chance to air any concerns over the TIP at the May 9th meeting before its final adoption on June 13.

VII. Communications from Committee Members

(On Items Not Listed on Agenda)

IX. Upcoming Meetings

- A. Citizens Advisory Committee – March 26, 2008; 6:30 p.m. (McCloskey Room)**
- B. Technical Advisory Committee – March 28, 2008; 1:30 p.m. (McCloskey Room)**
- C. Policy Committee – May 9, 2008; 1:30 p.m. (McCloskey Room)**

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:47 pm.

These minutes were _____ by the Policy Committee at their regular meeting held on 5/9/08.

(RCH __/__/2008)